From the principal…

The beginning of the year is an expensive time for families as all the book levies, uniforms, school shoes and supplies are all needed in a short time frame. For this reason we try to keep the book levy at a reasonable cost – it hasn’t changed for a couple of years.

However, at this time we have many families who have probably overlooked this payment, especially with all the other important notes that have been due lately. Currently we have over $8000 worth of book levies overdue. If you are able to drop in and pay the levy it would be greatly appreciated, alternatively, if you are experiencing difficulty, please talk to me.

In an attempt to try to ease the gate congestion in the afternoon, we have come up with an idea. One of our assistant principals walk the bus people over to the bus stop every afternoon. If it makes it easier for you, you could get your child to join the busline and meet you at the bus stop in front of the high school instead of trying to negotiate the heavy traffic outside our school gate.

Last Thursday we held our first evacuation practice for 2015. It is mandatory that all schools hold these drills at least twice each semester. Ours went very smoothly!

Every child’s safety is everyone’s concern.

Denise Rispen
Principal

GATE CLOSURE TIMES
Mornings 8.45 – 9.30 Afternoons 2.30 – 3.15

ASSEMBLY - Assembly Fridays at 12.40pm

AWARDS:
Gold: 1/2L - Bindi P. Alex E.

4 THINGS CURRENTLY DUE AT SCHOOL:
1. BOOK LEVY ($60 K-5 and $140 Year 6)
2. ANAPHYLAXIS AND ASTHMA ACTION PLANS (from your doctor)
3. UPDATED STUDENT INFORMATION SHEETS (mauve sheet)
4. TELL THEM FROM ME PERMISSION NOTES

THE TELL THEM FROM ME STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY
This term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

The survey is totally confidential which means students and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Extra copies of the form and answers to some Frequently asked questions are available from the website above.

COMING EVENTS
5/3 Commonwealth Bank account opening opportunity 8.45am under the COLA
12/3 School disco K-2 5.30-6.30 Years 3-6 6.45-8pm
13/3 School Cross Country
16/3 P&C meeting 7pm
19-20/3 Band Camp
25/3 T-Ball Gala Day
2/4 Easter Hat Parade & P&C raffle draw
NEWSLETTER
Please send in your email address so we can email you the newsletter!

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Joel O'C & Kayne G for being finalists in the Lake Macquarie Junior Male Sportsperson of the Year. They were recognised for their outstanding sporting achievements & presented with medals on stage at the Lake Macquarie Annual Sports Dinner on Saturday night.

PHONE APP
Have you downloaded the phone app yet?

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CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY FOR OUR SCHOOL
This Friday afternoon (weather permitting) we will be conducting our own Clean Up Australia Day around our school. Teachers and students will spend some time in the grounds cleaning up the rubbish that ends up on the ground and sometimes in our waterways.
The children will wash their hands after participating in the activity, but if you have some old plastic/gardening gloves your child could use, please send them in with your child on the day.

DISCO
On Thursday 12th March night there will be a school disco organised by Student Parliament and supervised by staff. Cost of entry will be $6 for each student.

K-2 students will be ‘discoing’ from 5.30-6.30pm and the Years 3-6 entry will be $6 for each student. organised by Student Parliament and supervised by staff. Cost of entry will be $6 for each student.

WHAT’S NEW IN THE CLASSROOMS

Early Stage 1 – KJ - This is a really busy classroom. The Kinders have started reading and feel a sense of pride and accomplishment as they move from success to success. During the past week they have learned about 2 dimensional shapes and enjoyed creating some shape prints. We also began to learn about the sounds that letters make. Last week it was ‘a’ and ‘m’, this week it will be ‘s’ and ‘t’. Already we will be able to start making some words.

Stage 1 – 1J
- Students also learned about shapes and to finish the week created a mixed media paste and paint based on the work of Wladimir Kadinsky. This was an artist who loved bright colours and concentric circles. It’s a stretch to join the two ideas, but I’m flexible. Science groups have been very successful, as the students perform hands on experiments while socializing with their friends. At the end of this unit, in about Week 8, we will be making boats out of recycled or junk materials. Can you please keep this in mind as you recycle each fortnight?

Stage 1 – 1/2P
1/2P has had a very productive and fun start to the year. Recently we have been learning to use onomatopoeia (words to resemble a sound) in our writing. Here are some great examples.

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Suddenly I heard BOOM, BAM and BASH! “What was that?” I said. Then I saw the lightning and knew it was the thunder. I was so scared and my dog was howling. By Aydin

I awoke to the pitter patter of the rain and then the electricity went out “ahh!” I could hear the thunder and my dog barked and barked. By Millie

I heard BOOM, BANG and SCREECH!! A car had crash into my front yard tree. It was as loud as a bomb blowing up. By Quinn

We have also enjoyed designing and decorating our own tropical fish.

Stage 2 – 3/4S
In 3/4S we are learning about measurement. We are exploring all the different methods of measuring using various tools.

On our blog you can find our amazing Ayres Rock artworks. We focused on using warm and cool colours. Visit: www.cbpsstage2.weebly.com

Stage 3 – 5W
It is shaping up to be a great year in 5W. Having our classroom in the treetops has its advantages as we have a beautiful outlook and often see many types of birds and owls sitting outside our windows. A Commo has just been installed and we are very excited to start using our new interactive screen. This week the class will be introduced to Google Classroom which will enable activities to be completed paperlessly and Google Docs to work collaboratively with a team on a single document. In Science we have been very busy investigating electricity and creating electrical circuits. After performing at last week’s assembly 5W were on a huge high. Confidence has been a focus area this term and all students demonstrated a have-a-go attitude whilst working with their peers. They thoroughly enjoyed creating some very comical skits to perform on stage.

SPORT

The Sports Shed Committee will be running a Capture the Flag Competition for years 3-6 during Lunch & Recess. K-2 students are welcome to cheer from the side. Interested students need to form a team of max. 6 players and decide what Country they are going to represent!

You need to register your team on the sheet on The Notice Board. Prizes for the Grand Final winners!
Don’t miss out; be quick to represent your favorite country!
Any questions please see a Sports Shed Committee Member.
BAND NEWS
This week, children will choose their food options for camp and they will also be making a 'wish list' of who they would like to share a room with (overnighters). These two activities will be completed at school. I have decided not to send the forms home because it is always difficult to retrieve forms on time.

If anyone has any concerns about this, please let me know. At the same meeting with the students, I will run through the itinerary for the 2 days and answer any questions they may have.

We know it is an extremely busy and costly time of year for you and your family. The added expense of a band shirt has attributed to this, however as mentioned previously, there will be ample opportunities for your child to wear it. Please come and see me or send a note if you are having difficulties with the purchase of a shirt. We can make a suitable arrangement so no child misses out.

You are providing your child with the wonderful gift of music so thank you again for your ongoing support of the school band and our activities.

Reeds are available at the office for $3.50ea. Please remember to add a reference when direct debiting. Direct deposit details: Account Name: Caves Beach PS Concert Band BSB 062820 account no. 00903319. 
Have a great week! Michelle Thurston

LIBRARY
B ook Club- Please accept my apology re Book Club deliveries. There have been some teething problems with the new LOOP system.

CANTEEN
Roster
Monday 2 Mar Wendy Sharpe & Danielle Ivers
Tuesday 3 Mar Sue Gardener & Kerry Williams
Thursday 5 Mar Dea Freebody, Benita Ogilvie & Rebecca Webster
Friday 6 Mar Liana Wright, Yeni Longhurst, Denise McKenzie, Kim Surman & Lisa Godde

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking day is every Thursday. Each week students will need to hand your book into the teacher. To support this activity, Karen from the Commonwealth Bank will be holding an account opening day this Thursday 5/3/15 from 8.45AM till 9.30AM outside the hall under the COLA area.

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along your current driver’s licence or another form of photographic identification. No identification is required for your child attending school, as the school will confirm their identity. Alternatively, you can open an account at any branch, by calling 13 22 21, or online if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer.

This is a great fund raiser for our school. The school earns $5 commission on every deposit made and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

UNIFORM SHOP
Uniform Shop Coordinator - Paid Position
The P&C is seeking expressions of interest for the Uniform Shop coordinator/supervisor position for 2015 - 4 hours per fortnight. This position is suited to a person with good communication and people skills, an understanding and commitment to supporting the needs of parents/careers and students of our school community, good organisational skills and some flexibility with working times. A specific statement of duties is available at the Office.
If you are interested – please apply in writing (approx 1 page) to Mrs Denise Rispen (email cavesbeach-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) outlining the experience you have that support your suitability for this position. Please note appointment to this position is dependent upon satisfactory completion of a Working with Children Check. Position information is available from the office. Applications close: Today, Monday 2nd March 2015

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Disclaimer: The advertisements included in the schools newsletter should in no way be considered as recommendations by this school. Any advertising fees paid, help to offset printing costs.